

for **Tuesday 16th March at 3.00pm** – this will be YOUR opportunity to have input. The proposed outcome will be a sub-committee set up to construct the reporting schedule and content for the school based on information gathered in line with National Standards. Please be involved in this process.

* Te Reo: Helen Easton has been working hard to develop resources for teaching Te Reo. Thanks very much to Pania Hughes and Lana Henry who helped with the process over the summer. There is more work to be done so if you are available please see Helen.

* Elections: Elections for the BOT will take place on the 7th May. Please give consideration to standing as a member of the BOT. Both Martha Ash and Cathy Wilson will be standing down.

* Lights on the Netball Court: The Waitomo Senior Woman's Netball team wishes to put lights up on our court for evening play. Preparation has been made and it will happen. The team has secured funding from a variety of sources and will pay for the project.

* New Books for the Library: A total of 96 new books have been bought for our library. Thank you very much to parents and friends of the school who made contributions over the Centenary weekend.

* School Water: The school is investigating the purchase of a water purifier to improve the condition of drinking water. Once again we are back on 'boiled water' until further notice.

* Pool filter system: The filtration system for the pool is in need of repair and we are investigation options for this. A final decision will be made by the new BOT so that this is completed by October as part of preparations for the new season.

Please feel free to put forward your ideas about the school to BOT or staff. Keep yourselves informed by attending Parent Meetings.

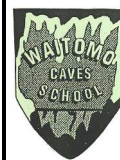
Martha Ash, Co-chair

Nominations for the Board of Trustees are being called for. The next meeting for Board members will be Tuesday 30 March at 6.00pm.

What's Coming Up At Waitomo Caves School

6 March	Kiwiana Festival
12 March	Waitomo Interschool Swimming sports
16 March	Parent meeting
23 March	Waikato Swimming Sports
26 March	Hearing and vision screening
27 March	Waitomo Sports Day
30 March	BOT meeting
1 April	Community Assembly
2 April	End of Term 1

Mrs Tamae Dimond
Principal ☺



Newsletter

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Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Term One 2010

Week Five – 5 March

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Welcome to our two newest students in the junior class. Divisha Lal and Nikhil Shankar are cousins from Fiji. Welcome also to our parent community Momita and Loulesh Lal and Riteshni and Nitesh Shankar.

Yesterday we had a lovely visit by ex Principal Mr Dennis Bridle and his wife Mrs Glenyss Bridle. They were unable to attend the centenary due to family celebrations so decided to pop in and say hello. Last year Mr Bridle helped our students out when it came to researching our school during his principalship in 1966-1969.

Sincere thanks to all families for the superb morning tea made available to the NZ Triumph car enthusiasts last Friday at the Domain. There was a huge amount of effort made in preparing plates of delicious food for the occasion. With such positive feedback regarding the scrumptious food, and \$750 raised, it was a job well done by everyone. Thank you Miria, Linda, Bex, Barbara, Pania and Lana for the extra time and effort put into making the day go well. Please collect your empty plates from the school staffroom.



**WAITOMO
GLOW WORM
CAVES**
NEW ZEALAND



• Private Bag 501, Otorohanga.

• Telephone (07) 878-8227 • Facsimile (07) 878 8858

Proudly Supporting Waitomo Caves School

Swimming Sports

Congratulations to all the students who competed in the COP's Small School Swimming Sports on last Wednesday. Everyone did extremely well and have made huge improvements and progress. The following results show how well students performed at the Small Schools Swimming Sports.

Blaze – 8 yr old boys 1 width backstroke (3rd).

Te Hurinui – 8 yr old boys 1 width freestyle (3rd), breaststroke (1st), back (1st).

Angel – 9 yr old girls 1 width freestyle (2nd), breaststroke (2nd), butterfly (1st).

Cheyenne – 9 yr old boys 1 width freestyle (2nd), breaststroke (1st), 1 length backstroke (2nd).

Tasman – 9 yr old boys 1 width freestyle (1st), breaststroke (2nd), 1 length backstroke (1st).

Ratapu – 10 yr boys 1 width freestyle (3rd), back (3rd).

Bailey – 10 yr boys 1 width backstroke (2nd).

Dallas – 10 yr boys 1 width breaststroke (1st), 1 length back (2nd).

Leah – 10 yr old girls 1 length breaststroke (3rd), back (2nd).

Tai – 10 yr old girls 1 length freestyle (1st).

Alex – 10 yr old boys 1 length breaststroke (1st), back (1st), freestyle (2nd), open age boys 2 lengths breaststroke (3rd).

Trent – 11 yr old boys 1 length freestyle (1st), breaststroke (2nd).

Waimarama – 11 yr old girls 1 length freestyle (3rd).

Alex, Leah, Tai and Dallas 10 yrs and under relay – 1st.

Thank you to Marci, Barbara, Melissa, Miria, Heather, Rachel and Cathy for providing transport.

COP's Swimming Sports on Wednesday proved to be another successful day of competition swimming. With a new criteria set and standards much higher we were represented by six of our strongest swimmers. Well done to Dallas, Alex, Leah, Trent, Tasman and Waimarama for achieving personal bests in all their races. Congratulations Tasman – 9 yr old boys 1 length freestyle (2nd), and backstroke (3rd), Alex – 10 yr old boys 1 length freestyle (3rd) and breaststroke (3rd), Dallas – 10 yr old boys 1 length freestyle (3rd) and breaststroke (1st), Trent – 11 yr old boys backstroke (2nd), Waimarama – 11 yr old girls freestyle (2nd). These children have one more swimming competition in Te Kuiti on Friday 12 March. Thanks Rachel and Melissa for transporting the children and giving wonderful support.

Stationery

At this stage we are not asking for school donations however we are sending home stationery fees. The majority of stationery has been supplied to each student that is necessary for the start of a school year. Children will be supplied with more as and when needed throughout the year. The invoices are juniors \$16 and seniors \$30. The main cost for seniors this year is a 4G

memory stick which will be suitable for your child till the end of their Year 8 class.

National Standards

National Standards is still very much a topic of conversation. Even though the Government want all schools with Year 0 to 8 students to implement the National Standards without any trial period, training for teachers or proof of these succeeding, as staff, we are taking these on board and getting on with it. We will continue with assessment procedures in the usual way so we are able to produce clear information about how our children are progressing. COP's and School Support Services are being active in working with the National Standards. This afternoon Helen, Heather and I are involved in a workshop at Otorohanga Primary School to find out more about them. Please read the leaflet that is enclosed with this newsletter.

Community Assembly

Due to a demanding start to the term and recent performances the children have been involved in the next Community Assembly will be held on the last day of term. This will be Thursday 1 April at 1.30pm.

Board of Trustees News

REPORT - Waitomo Caves School Board of Trustees

Thank you so much to all the parents who gave so much time to preparations for the Centenary. It was a MOST successful weekend. Shortly, the speeches given on Saturday night will be available – they are a wonderful documentation of memories by various past students.

Particular thanks to Ben and Bex Stubbs and the “Pou and Painting” team for the work to prepare the most marvellous pou and to re-paint the carvings on the side of the school. These are magnificent reminders of the community spirit of Waitomo.

Report from the meeting held on Tuesday 23 February 2010, Waitomo Caves School at 6pm.

* Strategic Plan: Tamae presented an Annual Report on Targets for Student Achievement in Maths and Literacy with evidence that in both areas progress has been made. Helen and Tamae were asked how children are progressing, and both said they felt children were making positive gains. A group of interested BOT members and parents will meet to further discuss the Strategic Plan. Please contact the school if you are interested in being part of the group.

* Third teacher: It has been suggested that, given student numbers, we look at employing another teacher part-time to work with literacy and maths groups in order to further extend our students. The BOT will be considering the options available along with the associated costs.

* Reporting to parents: The BOT is looking to gain parent feedback into how reporting could take place in Waitomo Caves School. A **Parent Meeting** is scheduled